

**BOARD OF OIL AND GAS CONSERVATION  
OF THE STATE OF MONTANA  
2535 ST. JOHNS AVENUE BILLINGS, MONTANA 59102**

## RELEASE AGREEMENT

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, that I, \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ of the County of \_\_\_\_\_  
in the State of Montana, am the owner of the hereinafter described land upon which a well for oil, gas, or seismic exploration was drilled, to-wit:

Operator \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Lease Name \_\_\_\_\_

Well No. \_\_\_\_\_ Sec. \_\_\_\_\_, Twp. \_\_\_\_\_ Rge. \_\_\_\_\_

Located \_\_\_\_\_ ft. from (N S) line and \_\_\_\_\_ ft. from (E W) line,

The surface elevation is \_\_\_\_\_.

That, in accordance with Board Rules 36.22.1305, or 36.22.502(5),

I do hereby notify the Board of Oil and Gas Conservation of the State of Montana of my desire to utilize said well as a fresh water well; and, that if such utilization is approved, I do hereby release and discharge the operator hereinabove named from any further work or responsibility in relation to the plugging of said well.

Water Use: Domestic \_\_\_\_\_ Municipal \_\_\_\_\_ Stock \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

Industrial \_\_\_\_\_ Drainage \_\_\_\_\_ Irrigation \_\_\_\_\_

Producing Depth \_\_\_\_\_ Producing Formation \_\_\_\_\_

Yield of well \_\_\_\_\_ Annual Withdrawal \_\_\_\_\_

WITNESS my hand this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Landowner Signature

Address \_\_\_\_\_

IN THE PRESENCE OF:

\_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

APPROVED BY  
MONTANA BOARD OF OIL AND GAS CONSERVATION

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name/Title

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

Return six copies to the address listed above.  
(SEE REVERSE SIDE)

#### **Board Rule 36.22.502 PLUGGING AND ABANDONMENT**

(5) A seismic shot hole may be left unplugged at the request of the surface owner for conversion to a fresh water well provided the surface owner executes a release on Form No. 19 relieving the party otherwise responsible for the plugging and abandonment of the hole from any liability for damages that may thereafter result from the hole remaining unplugged. This release will cite the date, location, surface elevation, depth to aquifer, and any action taken. This information shall be furnished by the geophysical operator. The surface owner must also notify and file within 30 days appropriate forms with the water rights bureau of the department of natural resources and conservation. The surface owner must also apply for a permit from the board of water well contractors, and explain in detail the procedures to be used in constructing the well. This is to insure that the shot hole is properly constructed, cased and developed into a water well, according to the minimum construction standards for water wells, as adopted by the board of water well contractors.

#### **Board Rule 36.22.1305 EXCEPTION FOR FRESH WATER WELLS**

(1) When the well to be plugged, as required by ARM 36.22.1303, may safely be used as a fresh water well and such utilization is desired by the landowner, the well need not be filled above the required sealing plug set below fresh water; provided that written notification of such utilization and a release by use of Form No. 19 is secured from the landowner and filed with the board.

(2) Approval by the petroleum engineer or his authorized agent of the work done shall relieve the operator of further responsibility.

#### **APPLICATION FOR WATER RIGHTS**

Complete applicable Form No. 600 or 602 following well completion and submit with electric log ( if run) showing the pertinent sand, to the Water Rights Bureau, P.O. Box 201601, Helena, Montana 59620-1601.